

LAKE MERRITT

PLANNING *Lake Merritt BART Station Environmental Justice Outreach:* in 2002/2003, BART and the City of Oakland successfully secured an Environmental Justice Grant from Caltrans to conduct targeted outreach in low-income and/or ethnic communities to examine their particular access needs and issues related to using the BART system. One of three neighborhoods selected for this effort is the Oakland Chinatown community. BART and the City of Oakland are conducting the outreach in partnership. Findings from the outreach will inform the development of the City of Oakland's Chinatown Transportation Plan and BART's Lake Merritt Access Plan. Both Plans are scheduled for completion in June 2004.

DEVELOPMENT In 2000, the City of Oakland requested that BART offer its parking lot at the Lake Merritt Station for high density housing. Compliance with the City request is on hold pending discussions between BART and Laney College. One concept being considered is to shift BART's parking to Laney College property to enable development to occur on BART's land.

ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS Thirty-six net new bike racks are currently being installed. The old style, gray, plastic, bike lockers were replaced with 32 new see-through metal electronic "Club" style lockers as part of a test to increase bike locker capacity and safety at BART.

This station is slated for new, ADA-compliant platform edge tiles.

REINVESTMENT This station had new, energy efficient lighting fixtures and lamps installed within the station in 2002, and is scheduled to have new, energy efficient lighting fixtures and lamps installed throughout the parking lot in 2003, as part of ongoing station renovation programs.